



student action on world poverty and the environment

## General Proposal for the Forum 2009

**Deadline for proposals: 8 December 2008**

[peopleandplanet.org/forum](http://peopleandplanet.org/forum)

**Categories for proposals:** finance and fundraising, present campaign, group support, communications, democracy, network, other, events

### Your details

Please provide the details of those putting forward the proposal. More than one proposer is optional.

#### Proposer 1

Name	Maryla Hart
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People & Planet group	P&P Fan Club and Warwick Group Member 2003-2006

#### Proposer 2 (*optional*)

Name	John Walton
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People & Planet group	University of Warwick

### Your proposal

Total word limit for this section: **500 words**.

Which category does your proposal best fit into?	Present Campaign
Title	Incorporating an Anti-Biofuel Campaign into Ditch Dirty Development.
Summary of your proposal (no more than 30 words).  For example, a topic for discussion, a position to debate or suggested course of action (like a motion).	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Raise awareness that agrofuels are a false green solution.</li> <li>2. Sign the EU Agrofuel Moratorium Call</li> </ol> <p>Expose and campaign against:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. pro-agrofuel policies.</li> <li>4. pro-agrofuell corporations.</li> </ol>
<p><i>What is the proposed agenda item? (Write about your proposal in more detail here.)</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>People &amp; Planet should become a movement leader on anti-agrofuel (industrial scale biofuel) campaigning by incorporating an anti-agrofuel campaign into Ditch Dirty Development</b></li> </ol>	

2. P&P should join over 200 organisations in calling for ***an immediate moratorium on EU incentives for agrofuels, EU imports of agrofuels and EU agroenergy monocultures.***
3. On 17/12/08, the European Parliament will vote on two pieces of legislation that will lead to large-scale agrofuel expansion through long-term targets. Once we know the outcome we can decide how best to campaign on agrofuel policy issues. (The proponents of this policy can submit further information on this nearer the time).
4. People & Planet should campaign against Blue NG who plans to build the UK's first biofuel power plants and against other corporations involved with agrofuels. P&P should aim to stop these power plants from going ahead.

We suggest that P&P could benefit by working in conjunction with Biofuelwatch and Food Not Fuel (London). These organisations are willing to help P&P get their agrofuel campaign off the ground.

*Why is this important for People & Planet? For example, why is it valuable to discuss or if implemented, how will it make P&P more effective?*

This proposal is important for P&P as agrofuels are linked to everything we campaign on: from environment to human rights, development, poverty and corporate power. It is our generation that will be held responsible for the devastating affects of agrofuels on climate change, ecosystem destruction, hunger and human rights abuses.

- We cannot stop climate chaos if we don't stop agrofuels. Agrofuels (industrial scale biofuels grown in monocultures) are leading to climate chaos, deforestation, increased global food prices and human rights abuses.
- Agrofuels are leading to the destruction of rainforest, the draining of peat bogs and the displacement of farm land for food crops. Deforestation causes at least 18% of global greenhouse gas emissions (Stern Revue, 2005). Peat lands destruction for palm oil causes even more emissions than deforestation. Amazon deforestation in Brazil more than tripled since a year ago, largely driven by rising food prices, reversing past improvements (Guardian, 30/9/08).
- 75% of rising food prices is due to the expansion of agrofuels (WB) and 100 million extra people are going hungry in 2008. (UN World Food Programme, 04/2008).
- Up to 60 million indigenous peoples are at risk of becoming 'biofuel refugees' (UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues).
- Industrial scale agrofuels cannot be grown sustainably. They use nitrate fertiliser, responsible for nitrous oxide emissions – a GHG nearly 300 times as powerful as CO<sub>2</sub>. Even oilseed rape that comprises 80% of EU home-grown biodiesel generates up to 70% more GHG emissions than fossil fuel diesel (Nobel Prize Winner Paul Crutzen).

**The UK government is supporting the building of biofuel power plants. Blue NG have planning permission to build the UK's first biofuel powered plant in Newham,**

**London and are applying for planning permission for a second in Southall, Ealing. They then plan to build 7 more.**

Germany already has 1,800 combined heat and power plants running off crude vegetable oil. Most of the larger and medium sized ones now run off palm oil, because this is the cheapest biofuel on the market. Germany gets as much electricity from biofuels (1.3 billion kWh ) as it does from solar. It's CHP plants use an estimated land requirement of 48,000 hectares for oilseed rape and an additional 106,000 hectares for palm oil.

**[http://www.biofuelwatch.org.uk/files/thames\\_gateway\\_biodiesel\\_project.pdf](http://www.biofuelwatch.org.uk/files/thames_gateway_biodiesel_project.pdf)) We must stop the same happening in the UK!**

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*How could it be implemented? (if applicable)*

N/A

**If you need any help or advice relating to completing this form, please contact Harry: [forum@peopleandplanet.org](mailto:forum@peopleandplanet.org) or call 01865 245 678**

**When completed, please return by email to [forum@peopleandplanet.org](mailto:forum@peopleandplanet.org)**